



# News Release

Pat Quinn, Governor

Jay Rowell, Director

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Greg Rivara  
Media: (312) 793-9635

## **Veteran Hiring Event in Aurora for Northern Illinois** **IDES and U.S. Chamber Partner to Put Veterans to Work** *Pre-Registration Increases Chance for Immediate Job Offer*

**AURORA** – The Illinois Department of Employment Security and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce again will offer a Hire Our Heroes hiring event from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 4, at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 501 hall, 1295 Butterfield Road, Aurora. An employment workshop also will be available at 9 a.m.

Approximately 80 employers with immediate job openings near Aurora and Chicagoland have confirmed attendance. Other businesses are on a waiting list. Eleven Veteran Service Organizations will introduce Veterans and their loved ones to other assistance such as interview guidance, career readiness and individual counseling.

Pre-registration for this event improves the likelihood of on-the-spot interviews and potential job offers. At the 2013 kick-off Hire Our Heroes Event in Chicago earlier this year, pre-registration made it possible for 577 on-site interviews and 152 immediate job offers. Although the Aurora event will be significantly smaller, the same innovative model will be used that features candidate pre-screening, applicant-employer matching, and onsite interviews. Veterans and others should pre-register at [hoh.greatjob.net](http://hoh.greatjob.net) – note no ‘s’ on jobs. Veterans should dress appropriately, bring resumes and be prepared to interview. Civilians also are welcome.

IDES is charged with delivering employment services to Veterans and last year helped 17,000 Veterans find work. The American Legion this year said IDES offered the best Veteran employment services in the country.

Veterans are sought-after employees for their service training, soft skills and experiences, which include respecting authority, embracing responsibility and operating in a team environment. Service members also have advanced training in fields ranging from technology and manufacturing to construction and logistics.

A state income tax credit of up to \$5,000 is available to businesses for each qualified Veteran who is hired. Employers might qualify for a federal tax credit of up to \$9,600 through the Work Opportunity Tax Credit.

Job seekers and employers also should use [Illinoisjoblink.com](http://Illinoisjoblink.com). More than 120,000 help-wanted ads are on [Illinoisjoblink.com](http://Illinoisjoblink.com), the IDES employment website that links job seekers with employers. Keyword matching technology increases the likelihood of a successful new hire and compares favorably to private efforts that cost hundreds of dollars for a single advertisement. No-cost HR recruitment services also are at (877) 342-7533.

Other sponsors include, but are not limited to, the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, American Legion, NBC News and local supporters.

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